FREE INDIA

35th Year Of Publication ★ June 16, 1974 ★ 20 Paise

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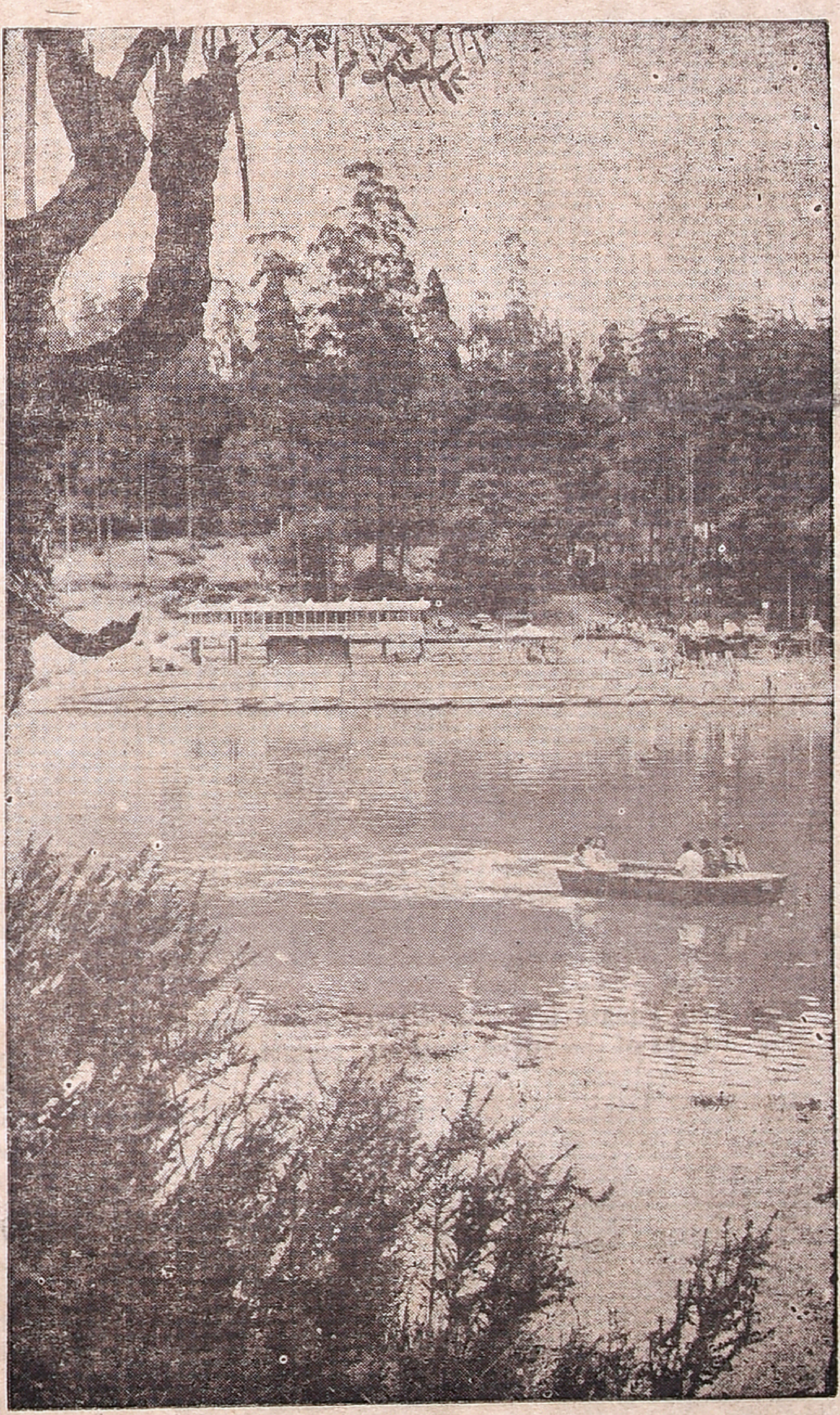
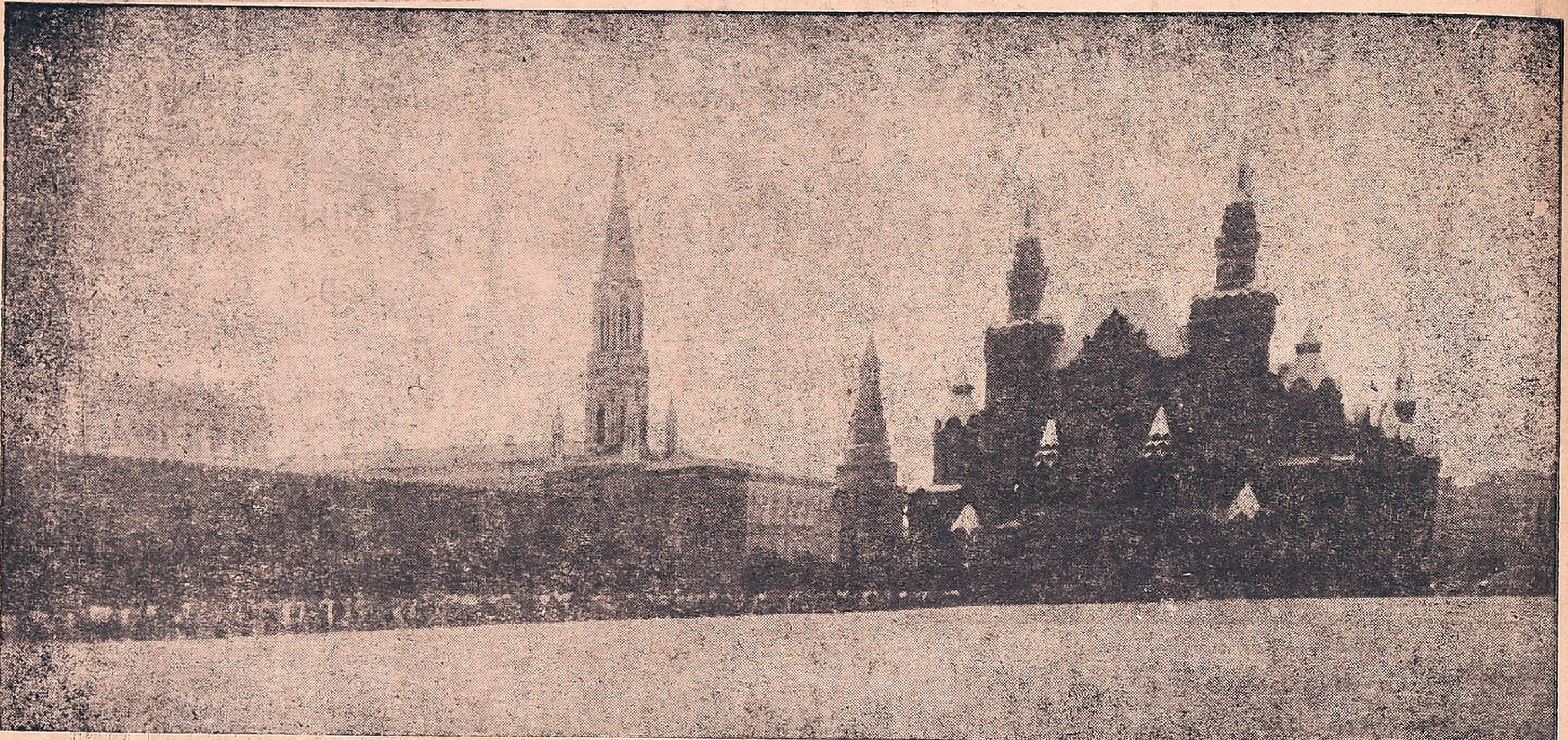
Courtrallam watter falls



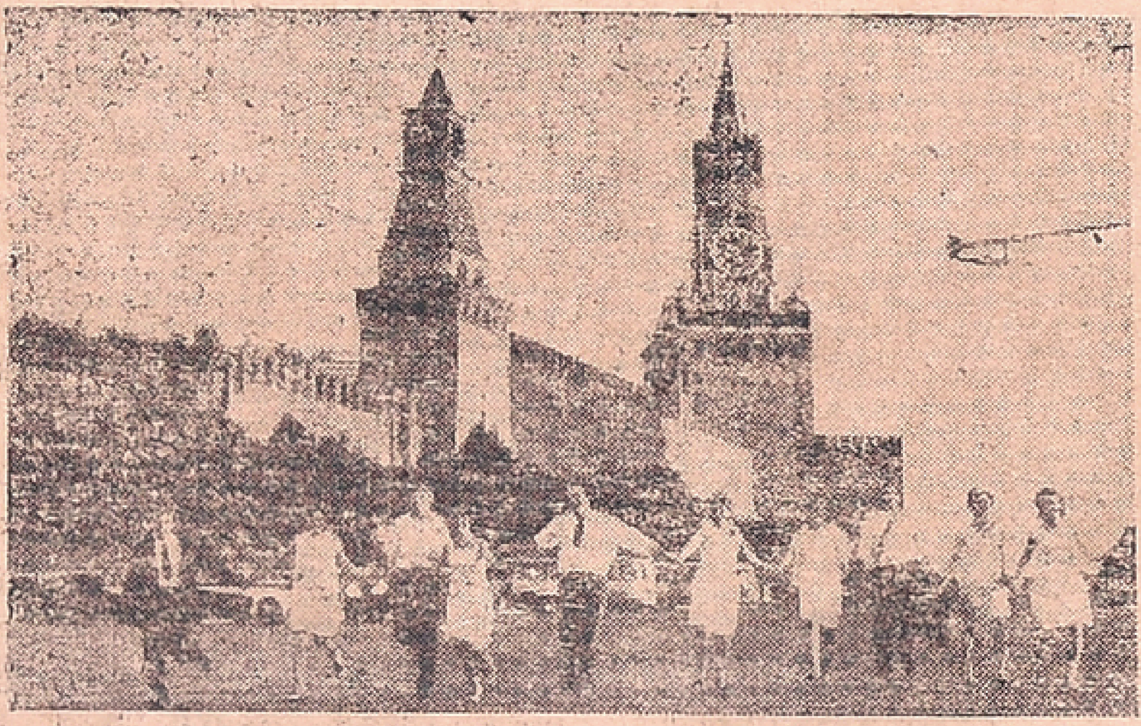
Kodaikanal Lake

SOUTH INDIA'S FINEST PICTORIAL WEEKLY



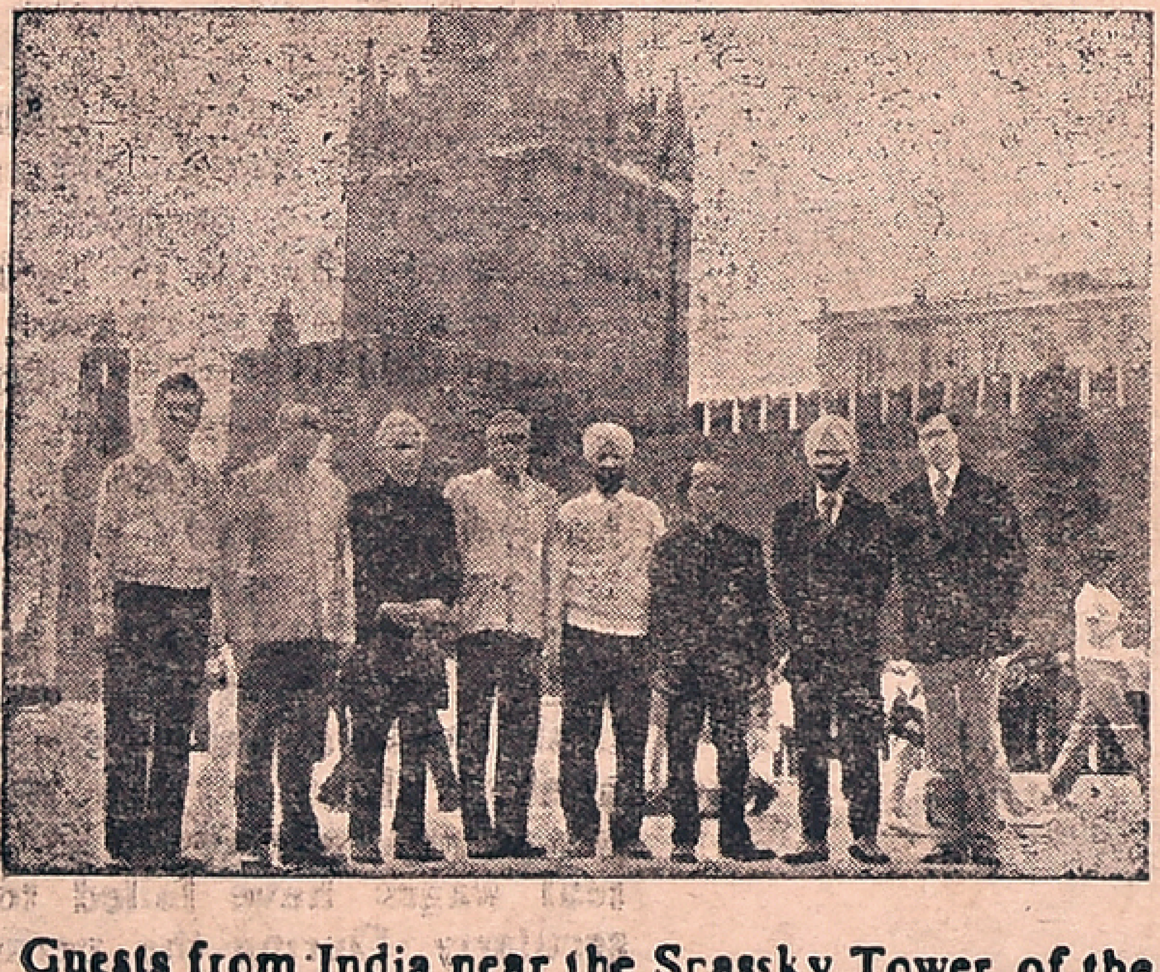
General view of the Red Square

Moscow's Red Square



It has become a tradition for the former school-children to go to the Red Square to welcome the dawn after the graduation ball in the school.

The Red Square is venue of festive demonstrations of the Soviet working people.



Guests from India near the Spassky Tower of the Kremlin in the Red Square

Most likely, not a single person visiting Moscow fails to see Red Square. Its fame is so great in the Soviet Union and abroad that it attracts people like a powerful magnet.

The place where Red Square is situated came into existence over eight centuries ago, but it came into limelight under this name after the October Revolution in 1917.

In 1930 it was decided to repave the square so that the new pavement should serve forever and also beautify the square. Skilled craftsmen—experts in laying cobblestones—Ryazan peasants Ignats Pankov, Tikhon Boriskin and Mikhail Solovyev, were entrusted with doing this job. They had also paved the historic square before Finland Railway Station in Leningrad where Vladimir Ilyich Lenin had spoken from the top of an armoured car in April 1917.

The contemporary Red Square and the Kremlin which is closeby cannot be imagined without their ruby stars. How were they created and who worked on them before they appeared on Moscow's skies? Ivan Afanasyev, an old worker of the "Krasny Mai" factory in Vyshny Volochok, recollected that he and another seven workers were given the job of manufacturing the ruby stars. And they made them.

And what about the Lenin Mausoleum? Already on that sorrowful day on 21 January 1924 the idea arose in Moscow of perpetuating the memory of Lenin. At the time the Soviet Government decided to build the Mausoleum on the Red Square. L. B. Krasin, Lenin's comrade, was charged with organising the work. Initially two temporary mausoleums were built out of the wood. Later Academician A. V. Shchusev designed the Mausoleum in such a way that it became a part of the architecture of the Kremlin and Red Square. V. I. Lenin's Mausoleum is regarded as one of the best works of world architecture, reflecting the people's love for their leader.

Red Square witnessed many historical events. It was there that the great Lenin addressed to the proletariat, the fighting men of the worker's and peasants' Red Army and asked them to defend the gains of the Great October Revolution. The Victory Parade to mark the defeat of Hitler's Germany was held in Red Square on June 24, 1945.

It is also the traditional place for festive demonstrations, for mass outdoor fetes, get-togethers and farewells. A river of humanity can often be seen flowing from Alexandrovsky Gardens through Red Square to the Mausoleum. These people have come all the way from their homes in different parts of the Soviet Union and the world to pay a tribute to Vladimir Ilyich Lenin.

The attention of the people who visit Red Square is often drawn to another building—the Central V. I. Lenin Museum. Thousands of working people from all continents of our planet visit it annually. Many people make notes in the visitor's book, expressing their love for the great thinker, feelings of gratitude and loyalty to his teaching. "After visiting the museum", a group of Soviet workers wrote, "we will work for the benefit of our Motherland with greater enthusiasm and inspiration."

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Income Policy And Inflation

By JITENDRA DHOLAKIA

Different views have been expressed by people in different fields — politicians, Industrialists, labour leaders and economists— on the question of an income policy to restrict the inflation in the Country.

In this article, reprinted from MAINSTREAM, the author, who is Reader in Economics and Chief of the University Employment Bureau, Gujarat University, discusses, whether the policy of controlling wages and incomes will succeed as a device in curbing inflation in India.

An income policy has been proposed for adoption during the Fifth Plan. It is usually designed to supplement the monetary and fiscal actions of the Government in seeking to contain and combat inflation. An income policy is generally suggested as a programme of restraint. The purpose of this article is to argue that an income policy would be of limited efficacy in controlling inflation in India.

It is indisputable that the Indian economy is suffering from inflation. Therefore, it is important to discuss whether the policy of controlling wages and incomes will succeed as a stabilisation device. It is often argued that wages and salaries increase the manufacturing costs and hence the income policy is necessary to restrain wage-push influences of forces. But does the increase in wages and salaries cause inflationary price rise in India? This is the most important question and it would therefore be pertinent to examine the trends in unit labour costs and their impact on the price level.

IMPACT OF WAGE COSTS

As for the impact of wage costs on the price level in India, the National Labour Commission stated: "Wage costs as a proportion of total costs of manufacturers have registered a decline." The proportion of wages and salaries to the total production cost varies from industries to industries. One study has shown that the unit material costs and the unit capital costs are increasing while the unit labour costs are declining.

Trends in various components of the manufacturing costs show relative importance of different elements in causing inflationary rise in prices. The costs of capital equipment and machinery have gone up considerably and also the prices of industrial raw-materials have risen. This analysis leads to the indication in favour of capital push or a material-push inflation but not wage-push inflation. As a matter of fact, the wage-cost ratio in the leading organised manufacturing sector in which money wages have increased fast has been constant at around 20 per cent during the last two decades.

Wage cost in value of output has declined from 15.4 per cent in 1965-66 to 14.8 per cent in 1969-70 in respect of 1501 large and medium companies. There have been larger increases in raw material costs and entrepreneurial profits. Published studies in the Division of the Monetary Economics, Reserve Bank of India indicate that the period 1965 to 1971 which was one of rising manufacturing costs, the large manufacturing firms have been in a position to improve their profits. Profits after taxes was a percentage of net worth have improved since 1960. The average profit for the large companies was 11.5 per cent in 1970 71. This is the largest since 1965-66. During 1970-71 certain groups of industries were able to record quite handsome profits. For example, aluminium industry earned 19.3 per cent, silk and rayon textiles 16.3 per cent, other non-ferrous metals (basic) 18 8 per cent and medicines and pharmaceuticals 15.5 per cent.

Thus there is some evidence of profit push rather than wage push inflation. Moreover the big companies have been able to shift the increase in their manufacturing costs to their consumers. This has been due to the fact that the organised large-scale industry in India functions under highly sheltered conditions on account of absence of foreign competition, licensing and import controls.

It can thus be seen that the rise in wage costs have not caused inflation in India. Moreover, for a number of industries the data based on the Annual Survey of Industries show that the proportion of wage costs to the total production costs has been declining. The average ratio of labour costs to the total production costs has declined from 17 per cent in 1958 to about 9.5 per cent in 1968. Only in a few cases has the marginal wage-cost ratio increased significantly. In the case of the old large-scale consumer goods industries like cotton textiles and jute textiles labour costs form about 18 to 24 per cent of the total costs. But in a large number of industries, the wage costs as a proportion of the total costs are as low as five per cent. The absence of wage-push influence clearly shows that inflation in India cannot be controlled by merely controlling wages or pegging wages and salaries. These facts bring out that the income policy as a stabilisation device is of limited efficacy.

Whatever else might have caused inflation in India it is not the wages of the industrial workers. The rise in wages has been rather a consequence than a cause of inflation in India. If this diagnosis is correct, how can the malady of inflation be cured by income policy? On the other hand, inflation in India has led to a steady erosion of real wages of the working class.

In many countries of the Third World, real wages of the industrial workers have been rising at about three to four per cent per annum, whereas in India the real wages have failed to rise secularly. During the period of the First and the Second Five Year Plans the real wages showed

(Contd. on next page)

The Simplest Form of Speech

My painful heart sincerely desires
To express only the Divine Truth
For in it is the Golden Fire
That burn the evils of this earth.

Lie is the burden of the life
The cause for the falling tears
The creator of endless grief
And the source of all fears.

Truth, the simplest form of speech
That comes from the hearts true
The sublimest power that teach
To live in peace and honesty prove

Truth is the Heavens' Divine Voice
Whispering sweetly in all our ways
And make all that follow it, to rejoice
And as a treasure with all it stays.

—*Dr. E. GILBERT.*

THUS SPAKE THE MAHATMA

I want to see God face to face. God I know is Truth. For me the only certain means of knowing God is Non-violence—ahimsa—Love.

ASOKA SCENTED BETEL NUT POWDER

Free India

SUNDAY June 16, 1974.

STRIKE BENEFIT

At least one real benefit has come out of the railway strike. That is the Government's realisation of the urgent need for a national wage policy.

While the strikes by bank employees and LIC staff did not make any impact, the Airlines strike roused the Government to the realities of the situation.

Success in breaking the airlines strike emboldened the Government to be firm in tackling the railway men's agitation.

We have been repeatedly stressing the need for a rational as well as national wage policy based on the principle of equal pay for like jobs.

A qualified typist for example must get the same salary irrespective of the unit in hich he works. The salary must be fixed taking into consideration the capacity of an average unit. The highest wages should be suitably linked to the minimum.

Under the existing system all the profits, a good part of which should go to the national exchequer by way of taxes, are shared by organised labour and the capitalists.

Adequate protection must be provided for the huge unorganised labour—especially the farm labour, perhaps the lowest paid in the country.

Linking of wages to productivity is one of the surest ways of curbing inflation.

We believe the Government will act with more speed on this front.

From previous page

Income Policy And Inflation

an uptrend. Thereafter there has been a perceptible fall in the real wages in India.

The situation has decidedly worsened after 1968 on account of the sharp increase in the cost of living. Even the National Commission on Labour has observed that the net effect of the operation of the industrial dispute machinery on wages of factory workers has been that in 1965 the industrial workers at the lower level were earning hardly a real wage corresponding to that in 1952. For the factory workers earning less than Rs 400 per month the index of real earning fell to 98 in 1969-70.

While the Government has followed a cautious policy of gradually raising wages and salaries, and has not denied opportunity to labour to justify its claims before the wage-fixing authorities, wage determination process has resulted in almost stationary real wage level in India. The judicial methods of settling wage disputes and wage board awards have introduced an element of delay to the disadvantage of the Indian industrial worker. The delay has caused a serious lag between gradually rising money wages and rapidly increasing prices of essential consumer goods. The combined effects of all these factors has been to prevent the increase in real wages.

In the context of the near constancy of the real wages in India, the income policy assumed significance as an instrument of planning the increases in the real wages of the workers. If income policy is conceived only as an anti-inflationary stabilisation device, it would detract attention from the need for evolving a wage structure with rising real wages.

BEST METHOD

At least one official publication recognised the role of income policy as a tool for bringing about a more egalitarian distribution of incomes in India. The Reserve Bank's Report on Income Policy stated: "The specific role of income policy is precisely to ensure that the broad pattern of generation of money incomes is consistent with the social objectives of the Plan and that the disparity in income distribution and consumption is reduced". In a country experiencing pains of economic development with price instability, the best method of reducing income disparities is to raise the real wages of the low-income earners in the society. The meaningful income policy in India must be concerned with the raising of the lowest income to a level thought to be more consistent with the current concept of a need-based minimum wage. To start with, the wage fixing authorities and other statutory bodies should aim at raising the level of the real wages in India.

It may be argued that the rise in real wages must be linked with the productivity of labour. It is true that a system of wage-productivity link-up needs to be an essential part of any income policy in India. But in India since independence the increases in productivity have outstripped the increases in real wages. Between 1952 and 1964 production per worker increased by 63 per cent whereas the index of real wages fell from 109 to 105 during the same period.

Moreover, a large share of the net value created by the industrial workers has been appropriated by the capital, managerial elites and the professionals in the industry. The increase in the share of salaries in value added by manufacture as against that of wages is evidence of such deprivation of the worker of his due share in the real output. The share of wages in the value added by the manufacture declined from 53.3 per cent in 1949 to 38.4 per cent in 1968 whereas the share of salaries in the value added increased from 10.6 per cent in 1949 to 15.9 per cent in 1968. These data are based on the Annual Survey of Industries and the Census of Manufacturing Industries. These data are of course indicative of only the broad trends. Moreover, the overall productivity of the industrial labour has increased by 98 per cent during 1951-69. But the real wages have not increased *pari passu* with the rise in labour productivity.

Thus the question of productivity lagging behind real wages in India does not seem to be a problem in the context of framing the appropriate income policy. The pertinent question to be faced is: what should be the due share of the industrial labour in the rising labour productivity and the net value added by manufacturing? It is here that the accent will have to be on the redistributive functions of the income policy so as to ensure just share to the labour in the increased real output.

EXPERIENCE OF OTHER COUNTRIES

In order to evolve certain guidelines for a meaningful income policy for India, it would be appropriate to consider the experience of other countries In many countries such as Netherlands, Norway, Sweeden, France and Great Britain efforts were made to implement income policy on the ground that only by such regulatory means can trade unions be prevented from exerting inflationary pressures on the economy. Income policy in these countries had to be virtually abandoned and wage drift started.

The attempt at income policy between 1965 and 1970 was the most comprehensive attempt at influencing wages and salaries in Britain since 1945. Meetings were held with managment and unions at a national level. A Joint Statement on Intent on Productivity Prices and Incomes was signed, and this statement was followed by an agreement setting up the machinery of Prices and Income Policy in February 1965. National Board for Prices and Incomes was set up to implement the incomes policy.

The Joint Statement set out a series of noble sentiments: "to keep increases in wages, salaries and other form of income in line with productivity increase, while keeping the prices stable." But the Prices and Income Board failed to accomplish the laudable perspective set out in the Joint Statements. The prices and Incomes Board in Britain did produce valuable data on prices, productivity and wages but failed to control the wage-price and wage-wage spital. The reality was more complex than the commonly agreed income policy, and the powerful trade unions at the local level tried to circumvent the agreement reached at the national level or at least to frustrate the national intentions of such agreements.

Moreover, the immediate problems of differentials, of leap-frogging wage claims by the militant unions and conditions of built-in-inflation on account of recurring balance of payment difficulties led to the failure of the income policy in Great Britain.

Experience in the Western countries tells us that income policy cannot work if a substantial number of trade unions and industrial firms can slip through the restraining net of the Government's norms and machinery such as Prices and Incomes Board and conclude their own agreement which are highly inflationary in character. From the examination of the experience in other countries it appears that income policy by itself will be infructuous to control infla,

(Contd. on page 11)

ON THE COVER

Summer (beginning from May till July-August) used to be a busy travelling season. People will be visiting hill resorts during this period. This year the travelling public suffered much due to the Railway strike and many could not make the usual trip. The season at Kodaikanal is in full swing and at Courtrallam it will begin by the end of July.

City Train Timings

(During Normal Times)

MADRAS CENTRAL

	Dep.	Arr.
Howrah Janata	8-40	19-15
Tatanagar Exp.	13-35	14-10
Howrah Mail	20-55	5-05
Circars Exp.	22-20	6-40
New Delhi Exp.	8-25	17-45
Hyderabad Exp.	12-50	10-15
Delhi Janata	14-00	15-55
New Delhi-Air-conditioned/Grand Trunk Express*	19-45	10-55
Dadar Express	9-50	17-15
Bombay Janata	13-40	14-05
Bombay Mail	21-50	5-15
Tirupati Exp.	7-15	21-30
Brindavan Exp.	8-10	19-05
Bangalore Exp.	14-25	13-25
Bangalore Mail	21-35	5 40
West Coast Exp.	12 25	14-45
Kerala Express	16-25	9-25
Mangalore Mail	20-20	7-00
Nilagiri Exp.	20-00	7-25
Cochin Mail	19-20	6-10
Gudur Pass.	8-45	22-50
Gudur Pass. (via Arkonam)	—	22-00
Vijayawada Pass.	15-20	12-40
Vijayawada Parcel Passenger	23-45	4-15
Raichur Pass.	9-25	19-55
Tirupati Pass.	17-00	9-45
Bangalore Pass.	6-05	21-00
Jolarpettai Pass.	11-20	14-25
Arkonam Pass.	18-10	—
Olavkot Parcel Passenger	21-25	6-10

Janata Express— III Class only.

*This train will run as air-conditioned express ex-Madras Central on Mondays and Saturdays and arrive Madras Central on Wednesdays and Fridays. On the other days of the week, it will run as Grand Trunk Express.

MADRAS EGMORE

(MAIN LINE)

Cholan Express	9-50	16-25
VirudunagarJanata	15-20	7-45
Rameswaram Exp.	19-30	8-05
Tiruchi Pass	6-45	
Nagore Fast Pass.	15-55	12-05
Trivandrum Pass.	21-20	5 20
Madurai Parcel Passenger	22-25	4-50
Shencottah Pass.	—	21-15

(CHORD LINE)

Trivandrum Exp.	[illegible]	18 10
Kanyakumari Exp.	18-1[illegible]	-35
Trivandrum Mail	19-00	[illegible]-15
Pandyan Exp	20-10	6-40
RockFort Express	22-00	5-10
Rameswaram Passenger	11-00	15-50
MADRAS BEACH		9 55
Chingleput Pass.*	17-07	10-40
Kancheepuram Passenger*	17-33	9-55
Kancheepuram Passenger	18-12	9-13

*Will run on all days except on Sundays.

Sunday service will be observed only on Madras Beach-Tambaram Electrified suburban section.

Janata Express—Third Class only.

Political Freedom & Social Justice-IV

Law Alone Not Enough to Remove Untouchability

Following is the IV and concluding part of the text of the Third Govinda Ballabh Pant Memorial Lecture entitled "Political Freedom and Social Justice" delivered by Dr P. B. Gajendragadkar, Chairman, Law Commission and former Chief Justice, Supreme Court of India, on April 25, 1974 at Sapru House, New Delhi. First three parts of the lecture were published in our issues dated 26 5-74, 2-6-74 and 9 6-74.

The fact that, even after 25 years of freedom the lot of the average Harijans living in villages and even in urban areas has remained substantially the same and the Hindu community has shown no spirit of penitence or remorse by making sustained efforts to remove untouchability and inviting the Harijans to join the social stream of life on terms of absolute equality, is bound to make young Harijan intellectuals and, indeed, all Harijan men and women angry, bitter and frustrated. All of us who witness the continuance of the same old tragedy overtaking the lives of innumerable Harijans residing in villages and in some cases in urban areas must bend out heads in shame. What does political freedom mean to this large mass of Hindu community if the curse of untouchability has not yet been removed and the problem of their poverty and their isolation from the main stream of social life is not solved? No wonder that some of them expressed their anger in poems which naturally stir the hearts of all members of the Harijan community and call for sympathetic response from the progressive sections of the Hindus. Here is what poet Arun Kamble says:

If you were to live the life we live
(then out of you would poems arise)
We: Kicked and spat at for our piece of bread
You: Fetch fulfilment and name of the lord
We: Down-putter degraders of our heritage
You: Its sole repository, descendants of the sage.
We: Never have a paisa to scratch our backs
You: The golden cup of Offerings in your bank
Your bodies flame in sandalwood
Ours you shovel under half-turned sand
Wouldn't the world change, and fast this life that's all we've always had?

Another Dalit Panther poet Pavar, with just anger and righteous indignation says:

These clenched fists won't loosen now
The coming revolution won't wait for you
We've endured enough; no more endurance now
Won't do letting down your blood's call to arms
It won't do:
The seeds of revolution have been sown since long
No use awaiting the explosion now!
The fire-pit is ablaze; it's for tomorrow
Even if you take to your heels now
No use! Life's certainty is no more.
How will they snuff the fire within?
How will they stop minds gone ablaze?
No more reasoning now:
Unreason helps a lot
Once the horizon is red
What's wrong in keeping the door open?

For some time past, newspaper reports show that trouble in more or less virulent form has been disturbing the peace of the chawls at Worli and apparently, one of the cause may be that the caste Hindus residing in some chawls have still not realised the importance of recognising the Harijans, who stay in the adjoining chawls, as citizens of India entitled to join the social stream of life on terms of equality. I am not expressing any opinion on the merits of these conflicts or incidents to which I have referred; I have cited them as reported incidents for the purpose of showing that the problem of untouchability is very much alive with us despite the fact that we have passed through a quarter of a century of polititical freedom. Political freedom, which does not succeed in creating a new social order based on absolute social equality, can have no meaning for the mass of Indians who suffer from the evil of social inequality and even of untouchability; that is the point I wish to emphasise by referring to these incidents.

By way of contrast, a refreshing and heartening news item appeared in *the Times of India* of April 2,1974 which shows that Chief Minister of UP has chosen to take prompt and effective action to restore the confidence of the Harijan community in the determination of the democratic system to attack the problem of untouchability in right earnest. This news item reports that:

"The entire staff of the Itiathok police station in this district (Gonda) has been suspended on the orders of the Chief Minister, Mr. H. N. Bahuguna, for conniving on March 26 at the plunder and burning of a Harijan settlement in broad daylight by the Thakur of Achalnagar Village, 32 km from here."

As in the case of individuals, so in the case of a community grave moments arise when introspection is the paramount need of the hour. I believe that our democracy is facing such a grave crisis today. In all humility but with all the earnestness at my command, I would suggest that all of us all political parties and educational institutions as well as all intellectuals should search our hearts and ask ourselves why is it that the Indian democracy has failed to keep its promise to establish social equality in this country even though we have enjoyed political freedom for a quarter of a century. Most of us have been lethargic, indifferent and even callous to this sore in the body-politic of the Hindu community and no crusading effort has been made to restore to a large section of the Hindu community full enjoyment of social equality to which they are entitled as citizens of this country. Gandhiji introduced the word 'Harijan' in the firm belief that it would invoke a responsive spirit in the minds of the Hindu community to treat the members of the scheduled caste as children of God and give them due recognition as fellow-members of the Indian community. The word 'Harijan' today strikes the members of the scheduled castes as ironical; they would prefer to be described as members of the scheduled castes rather than Harijans, because the tragic experiences through which many of them have gone from place to place in different parts of the country during the last quarter of a century, have their hearts bitter and their minds angry and frustrated.

A shocking and disgraceful incident was mentioned in the

(Contd. on page 10)

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FUN AND LAUGHTER

CARRYING COALS

"What does this expression 'Sez you' mean?" asked the judge.

The clerk of the court replied: "My lord, it appears that this is a slang expression of American origin which has gained regrettable currency in the language of our people through the insidious agency of the cinema, and is, I am led to understand, employed to indicate a state of dubiety in the mind of the speaker as to the veracity, or credibility of a statement made to him."

"Oh, yeah!" said the judge.

* * *

WAY OUT

Jones was always complaining of his wife's memory. "She can never remember anything," he said. "It's awful."

"My wife was just as bad," said Brown, "till I found a capital recipe."

"What was it?" asked Jones, eagerly.

"Why," said Brown, "whenever there's anything particular I want the missus to remember, I write it on a slip of paper and gum it to the looking-glass."

* * *

SURMISE

The guide had been answering the fussy woman's questions for half an hour, and his patience was exhausted.

"How were these caves formed?" she asked.

"I wasn't alive then madam," he replied, "but the story goes that a Scotsman dropped a sixpence down a rabbit hole."

AND SO ON!

The vicar's sermon was so exceptionally short having occupied less than two minutes, that the verger felt justified, in the vestry afterwards, in remarking on its extreme brevity.

"Yes, it was short," said the vicar. "As a matter of fact, I am without my teeth to-day, and find it difficult to speak plainly."

On the following Sunday the sermon ran to a great length, occupying at least ten minutes longer than usual. The verger felt prompted to comment once again, and added: "I expect you've got your teeth back, sir?"

"No," said the vicar, "I haven't, but I borrowed my wife's and I wonder I'm not still preaching. I had a terrible job to stop when I did!"

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UP TO HIM

Anxious not to miss a good opening, the ambitious young man dashed into the lawyer's office.

"I read in the paper that your partner's dead," he said, between gasps. "Can I take his place?"

The lawyer looked at him without a smile as he replied dryly:

"Certainly, you can take his place, if you can arrange matters with the undertaker."

* * *

My husband said I was like the collar round his neck—hardly worth a coupon.—*Wife in London court.*

But he can't get away from the "tie."

* * *

UNEXPECTED

The Colonel's wife sent the following note to Captain Green:—

"Colonel and Mrs. Brown request the pleasure of Captain Green's company to dinner on the 20th."

Captain Green's reply gave her a shock. It read as follows:—

"With the exception of four men on leave and two men in the guardroom, Captain Green's company have great pleasure in accepting your invitation."

* * *

A TOUCH OF HUMOUR

After attacking an enemy ship one of the Allied submarines dived and waited for the depth charges.

One of these exploded near enough to the submarine to make it reel over so far that the alarm bell rang, and some of the lights went out. For a moment there was a dead silence as everyone waited for what might happen next. Then the ship's comedian chipped in with:

"Give the gent a coconut, Bill: he's rung the bell!"

* * *

"RETURN, PLEASE"!

To the village came the troops on manoeuvres. Some of them had to act as "enemy."

One soldier so detailed was standing by a gate when from a cottage emerged a sympathetic old dame and offered him an apple.

"And what are you doing here?" she asked.

"Oh, I'm the enemy."

"The enemy? Then give me back that apple."

* * *

"Are there any books published that help one in furnishing problems?"

Oh, yes. A good fat encyclopaedia is ideal for propping up a sagging sofa.

PASS IT ROUND!

In a small town in Ireland the inhabitants decided that some boxing bouts might add a little to the excitement of the place. But the attendance on the opening night was poor.

The principal promoter summed up the situation, and then, stepping into the ring, announced: "I've just received a telegram from the Marquess of Queensberry, and he says he must have £5 for the use of his rules. Boys, I will now pass round the hat."

SO NEAR AND YET

Two men worked side by side in a war Production Board office. They never spoke, but each watched the other. One man left work daily at 4 o'clock. The other toiled on till 6 or later.

Some months passed. Then the harder-working of the two approached the other.

"I beg your pardon," he said, "but do you mind telling me how you can clean up your work every at 4 o'clock?"

"Not at all," said the other man. "When I come to a touch piece of detail, I mark it, 'Refer to Commander Smith.' I figure that, in a department as large as this, there is sure to be a Commander Smith. And I must be right; those papers never come back."

The harder worker started to remove his coat.

"Brother," he said, "prepare for action. I'm Commander Smith."

JUST HIS JOB!

Leaning against a field-kitchen a large and fat regimental cook surveyed the sea of mud caused by several days of heavy rain.

"I dunno," he moaned to his small but energetic assistant. "I wish I was bloomin' well dead!"

"That's right, you lump o' laziness" retorted the other. "That'd just suit you, lying in the bottom of a box with nothing to do!"

* * *

RETORT COURTEOUS

The amateur actors were rehearsing.

Mrs. Jones was required to kiss Mr. Smith, and as they arrived at that incident Mrs. Smith appeared.

"Oh," exclaimed Mrs. Jones, "I hope, dear, you don't mind my kissing your husband?"

"Not at all, darling," was the icy reply. "I don't mind in the least—if he doesn't."

LITTLE LAUGHS

Husband: I told my wife I had volunteered my services as a firewatcher, and she said, "Yes, I heard you had chosen the same night as your two lady friends."

* * *

Wife: When I suggested to my husband that I should join him as a warden, he said, "You are too late, the woman lodger has been appointed."

* * *

When I found another woman's hair on my husband's shoulder he excused it by blaming a crowded Tube train.—*Woman in court.*

But a husband has to train to be able to find answers like that.

* * *

A man isn't as anxious to be right as he is to have others think he is.

* * *

"Shall we live with your parents?"

"Can we live without them?"

* * *

Isn't it a pity a man can't dispose of his experience for as much as it cost him?

* * *

Many a man is kept busy today trying to undo the things he did yesterday.

* * *

"And what lesson do we learn from the busy bee, children?"

"Not to get stung."

* * *

Woman in court: When I asked my husband whether he expected to be late home from the office, he said it depended on whether his new typist was a swift one or not.

* * *

"My uncle bought my aunt a violin."

"I didn't know she played one."

"She doesn't. He wanted to give her a place to rest her chin."

* * *

"Don't you think the poet was right when he said that Heaven lies about us in our infancy?"

"Yes; but he forgot to add that everybody lies about us for the rest of our lives."

* * *

"That's funny."

"What is?"

"Oh, nothing. I was just thinking."

"Ha, ha! That *is* funny!"

* * *

Bill: "Beats me why they call these cinema attendants ushers, Emma."

Emma: "Don't be silly, Bill. Don't they've to tell people to keep quiet?"

* * *

SILLY!

Two flies were strolling along the ceiling. Suddenly one of them paused.

"You know," it remarked, "human beings are very silly."

The second fly shrugged.

"People are silly?" it echoed. "How do you make that out?"

The first fly tapped the ceiling with its foot.

"Well; take a look," it chirped. "They spend good money building a nice ceiling, and then they walk on the floor!"

The New Star In The Himalayan Sky

Last week the serenity of the Himalayas was pleasantly disturbed when the tiny kingdom, Bhutan, observed at a colourful ceremony the coronation of its young King. It was attended by a few hundred dignitaries from all Parts of the world including Mr V. V. Giri, Prince Birendra of Nepal, the Chogyal of Sikkim, and the President of Bangladesh.

The 19-year old monarch, Jigme Singye Wanchuk formally assumed the reign on June 2, as he was presented with a scarf by the chief Lama, Je Kenpo in the throne room of the Tashichhodzing, the fortress-secretariat.

Jigme Singye Wangchuk is the fourth in the line of Wangchuk dynasty established in 1907. The youngest monarch of the world had his education in India and England, before completing it at the Ugyen Wangchuk Academy at Paro in Bhutan. He has been associated with the affairs of the government as the chairman of the Planning Commission since he was proclaimed as the Crown Prince in 1972.

The country received a shock in the same year by the sudden death of its King, Jigme Dorji Wangchuk during a visit to Nairobi. So the mantle fell on the young shoulders of his son Jigme Singye.

Ever since he was enthroned, the young ruler has been repeatedly declaring that he will pursue the policies of his father in relation to the country's administration and continue the centuries-old ties with India.

A member of the United Nations, Bhutan had an eventful history like any other kingdom in the world. A speciality about Bhutan's history is the fact that the Kingdom had rulers elected till the beginning of the century. It had, however, seen the usual power struggles that affected any other country of the medeival times, particularly between temporal and religious heads.

Before 1907 when a hereditory dynasty was established, the affairs of the country were guided by the spiritual head called the Dharma Raja. The administration was looked after by a less powerful chief Deva Raja.

While the office of the Dharma Raja was filled by a reincarnation of the preceding Dharma Raja, the Deva Raja was elected from among the Penlops or district governors of the country. Though spiritual matters were removed from the sphere of day to day administrative functions of the Deva Raja, the system suffered many a friction between the two heads. However the system came to an end when Ugyen Wangchuk emerged as the strongest among the penlops and abolished the office of the Dharma Raja. In 1907 he became the King of Bhutan establishing for the first time a hereditory monarchy.

During the reign of the third king the country went through a process of change towards democratisation.

In the administration the king is assisted by a royal advisory council, a council of ministers and a national assembly, known as Tshogdu. The 150-member Assembly has wide powers vested by the King, Jigme Dorji Wangchuk who had felt the world trend towards democratisation. He went even to the extent of voluntarily giving up his privileges, vesting in the Assembly the power to vote out the monarch. He made it a rule that the monarch should seek a vote of confidence from the Assembly every three years. In case he is voted out of power the King has to give his place to the next in the heirarchy. Half the Assembly members are the people's representatives elected by an indirect method every three years.

A church was established to look after the religious affairs of the State, with no right to interfere in the government.

Rightly the state has been called a "democratic monarchy."

Predominantly an agricultural country, Bhutan has an area of about 18 thousand square miles with a population of over a million.

The Indo-Bhutan relations based on equality and the principle of mutual non-interference in internal matters, stand as a unique example of good neighbourliness. India has played a vital role in the economic development of the Himalayan Kingdom. The five year plans of Bhutan have been designed and cast by the Indian planners...Bhutan's third plan with an outlay 350 million rupees was launched in 1971. India has been responsible for Bhutan getting assistance from the Colombo plan countries.

The two countries have special treaty relations. By the 1949 Treaty India is guiding the kingdom in its external affairs. She also returned the Bhutanese territory which was annexed by the British Government during the last century. By the same treaty India raised the annual compensation to Rs five lakhs being paid to Bhutan.

Bhutan is being called by its inhabitants as "Druk," the land of thunder Dragon, and the King is known as "Druk Gyalpo," meaning the Dragon King.

With every succeeding ruler the two countries have come closer. It is hoped that the new King will further this relations and also pursue his father's policy of democratisation.

—"S.S."

—

"What happened when you told your wife you had put your foot down?"

"The doctor never told me."

* * *

Night clubs have been described as places where the tables reserved and the members aren't.

Handicrafts Of Maharashtra

Indian handicrafts have always had a fascination not only for Indians but also for the people abroad. The reason is that they symbolise a great tradition and rich cultural background of the country.

Maharashtra has been contributing its share for the enrichment of this tradition. During the days of princely rulers, the royality gave unstinted patronage to this art by displaying the wares in their palaces as well as giving financial aid to the artisans engaged in the work. This patronage served to give the much-needed impetus to this ancient art. Thanks to the liberal attitude taken by the Government after independence, the Indian handicrafts have not only spread far and wide but have proved to be a great source of earning foreign exchange for our country.

Maharashtra Government is not lagging behind in promoting these crafts. Liberal cash grants and other incentives to the makers of the handicrafts have given a special position to the handicrafts products. Today the handicrafts industry is mostly organised in Co-operative sector although there still exist individual craftsmen. The Government help to the co-operatives comes mainly in the form of financial assistance, technical guidence and marketing and sales of their products.

The following are some of the major handicraft products manufactured in Maharashtra:

PAITHANI :- This is a silk and jari saree which derives its name from village Paithan in Aurangabad district in Maharashtra. At one time Paithani was a 'must' for every Maharashtrain bride. The sari has a style of its own in silk and elaborate gold ornamentation in pallavs and borders which are of exquisite quality and bear a mark of human dexterity. Its modern uses are ladies dresses, centre-pieces, evening purses, piano cover etc. Yeola Paithani and Jari sarees of Nagpur and Umrer are also important in the realm of famining attire.

HIMROO :- This is another fascinating fabric produced as a handicraft. It is an extra weft figuring fabric with a solid background of satin or twill and decorated with figurative motives and made from cotton and Viscose rayon yarn. It is woven from silk yarn and gold thread or silk background. Himroo shawls of Aurangabad are a great attraction for home and foreign tourists visiting Ajanta and Ellora.

BIDRI WARE: This art back 400 years to the Bahamani and Baridi dynasties under whose patronage they flourished and reached a degree of perfection. The Bidri work represents the traditional art of silver ivory on jetblack background of metal alloy. Items like flower vases, tinket bones, ear rings, broches, snack dishes, wall plates, choff links etc. are very popular with tourists. A few Bidriware craftsmen have now migrated to Marathwada from Mysore (Karnataka) and are continuing the art. Aurangabad has co-operative society of Bidri ware.

HAND EMBROIDERY: Woman's co-operatives of Pimpri and other places are doing traditional mirror embroidery work on bags. Sofa covers, table cloth, shawls etc. Silk borders composed of an elegant mixture of cotton and silk having pretty floral designs. Peacooks etc and other designs ingeniously looped with gold and silver threads while weaving are produced in Paithan.

JEWELLERY: Silver artware originated during the last years of Maratha rule nearly 200 years ago. Initially the craftsmen undertook to manufacture pooja articles like idols of Gods Nirajan: Kumkum boxes etc. Later, on popular demand articles like Pandan, Gulabdan, Attardan etc were added to the list of items produced at these units.

Hupri near Kolhapur is today a major manufacturing centre of silver jewelery. Hupri jewellery has an identity of its own. The ornaments have an artistic individuality imparted to them by the craftsmen. The ornaments are in great demand both in India and aboard.

OXIDISED COPPERWARE: This is an innovation of the past few years. The oxidised copper wares combine both utility and artistry and as such are popular at home and abroad. Among the wide range of art ware produced are decorative chandlliers, lamp stands, ash trays, glass holders paper cutters, pin cushions, trays etc.

SISAL FIBRE WORK:- These articles manufactured at Ahmednagar, Bombay and other places, include coloured shopping bags, ladies' purses and mats. Coloured stones called 'agate' are available in the hill tracts of Ajanta and Ellora. Necklaces from these precious stones in different sizes are manufactured at Pachod in Aurangabad district.

SCIENCE NOTES

Energy From The Atom

Nuclear energy is obtaiaed from the release of the binding energy, which holds together the nucleus of the atom. This release can come from fission (splitting) of the atom or by its fusion (merging) with another. Present nuclear reactors are based on the fission principle.

A naturally occurring type of Uranium known as Uranium—235 is readily fissionable. It can be split by having its nucleus struck by neutrons from outside. Most of the energy comes out as heat, while the rest is released as radiation. Both heat and radiation can be used for peaceful purposes. Moreover, more neutrons are released from within the fissioned nucleus. These go on to split the nuclei and still more neutrons are released in a self sustaining chain reaction.

In nature, we find only one type of fissile material, viz., U-235. In the natural Uranium, 99.3 is the non-fissile U-238 and only 0.7% is U-235. There are processes for "enriching" the Uranium by increasing its fissile content, but they are uery costly. But, strange are the ways of natuce. When Uranium-238 captures some neutrons, it is converted into a fissionable material, Plutonium-239. This is an important fuel for future reactors. Similarly. Thorium-232, which is available in plenty in India, on absorbing a neutron, eventually ends up as U-233, which is as good a fissile material as Plutonium-239 or Uranium -235.

When a neutron splits the nucleus of a free atom, freeing other neutrons' the liberated neutrons travel at a high rate of speed. Something is needed to slow down the neutrons to ensure effective splitting of the nuclei. This is done by a moderator which slows down the neutrons without absorbing them. Graphite, ordinary water, heavy water (water which contains heavy hydrogen instead of ordinary hydrogen) are some materials that can be used as moderators. Reactors are operated by control rods, which absorb the neutrons readily. When they are inserted into the reactor, they absorb neutrons. When the rods are withdrawn, the neutrons start a chain reaction and the reactor goes "critical". There is also a coolant (water or gas) to transfer the intense heat for production of steam to generate electric power.

The neutrons causing fission of an atom can be fast or slow. Most reactors now use slow-moving neutrons and are called thermal reactors. The fast breeder reactor. which is now being developed, uses high-speed neutrons and there is no moderator to slow them down. A great advantage of breeder reactor is that it can better use the nuclear fuel. It is possible to produce more than one fissile atom (either Plutonium or Uranium) for every fissile atom consumed. While the existing thermal reactors can burn one to two per cent of the available Uranium or Thorium, breeder reactors could convert 60 to 80 per cent of these to heat. There are, however, some technical problems in building these fast breeder reactots.

Purnima And Plutonium

Scientists of the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre are studying the physics of the fast neutron reactors. They had built an experimental reactor, called PURNIMA (Plutonium Reactor for Neutronic Investigations in Multiplying Assemblies). This has given the scientists experience in handling plutonium, made in Trombay. It is noteworthy that there was not a single instance of any leakage of radioactivity in the laboratory.

In the PURNIMA reactor, the Plutonium core is brought into a reflector and the neutrons are fed back to sustain a chain reaction. PURNIMA does not breed: it has neither Uranium nor Thorium. But the physics of neutron multiplication is studied. There are elaborate safety devices. In case of danger, the safety rods will shut off the reactor in one tenth of a second. 21 Kgs. of Plutonium was used for PURNIMA. It is to be noted that both the consumption and production of fissile material is negligible since it operates at a very low power level.

The experience from PURNIMA will enable the scientists to design and build a Pulsed Fast Reactor at the Reactor Research Centre, Kalpakkam, near Madras.

Meanwhile, handling Plutonium has gtven valuable experience. This man-made metal emits powerful alpha radiation and the maximum permissible body burden is just 0.6 micrograms (smaller than a dust particle). A mass as low as 500 gms. equivalent Plutonium may lead to a dangerous criticality.

Benefits From Radio Isotopes

The word "radio isotope" means radioactive substances called isotopes, as they are chemically alike but physically different. They give off radiation because of the imbalance of subatomic particles called protons and neutrons in their centres, or nuclei. Most radio isotopes used in the atomic energy programme are made in nuclear reactors, by bombarding stable, non-radioactive atoms with neutrons. The nuclei of the stable atoms acquire additional particles and become out of balance, or unstable. These unstable nuclei promptly try to become stable again by throwing off their excess energy in the form of radiation.

This radiation is used in a variety of ways. They can serve better than conventional methods. In several instances, they do jobs which conventional means cannot do at all.

In Trombay, BARC makes hundreds of radio isotopes by remote control to stringent specifications. India also exports the radio isotopes to several countries.

X-rays, used to treat certain types of cancer, have accompanying low-energy radiation that cannot penetrate the body to destroy deep-seated cancerous growths. The low level radiation is absorbed by healthy tissue. Radio active isotopes of cobalt or cesium, have very little of the accompanying low energy radiation.

ATOMIC COCKTAIL

Medical patients with thyroid trouble may be given an atomic cocktail, a solution with a small dose of Iodine-131. Since the thyroid concentrates iodine, the radio isotope promptly goes to the gland. The radiation is detected by a scanning device. Any distorted pattern shown will help in identifying the disease.

IN INDUSTRY

Radio isotopes are used in industry Over a thousand applications are known. One is thickness gauges for coated materials, made in continuous rolling sheets. A radiation beam from an isotope is passed through or reflected from the material. Even the tiniest variations in the thickness of the coating will vary the strength of this beam and show up.

Radiation gauges do not have mechanical contact with the material to be measured, thus avoiding any damage. On the same principle, there are gauges to measure fat in baby food or tobacco in cigarattes.

X-rays which find defects in welds need electricity. Today, radio isotopes can produce gamma rays instead, for the job. Radioactive Iridium-192 for example can help in the inspection of welds.

Installation Of Gobar Gas Plant

By KRISHAN KUMAR

In Gobar Gas Plants the dung is fermented to yield a combustible. gas which can be used for cooking as well as lighting purposes and the spent residue becomes available for use as manure.

The gas plant operates on the simple principle that fermentation of dung or any other organic material in the absence of air, prouces a compustible methane gas. In the gobar gas plant this fermentation is carried out in a brick lined well which is filled with dung made into a liquid slurry with water. This is then covered with an iron drum introduced upside down in to the well which serves to cut off air and provide the necessary conditions for fermentation.

The gas produces bubbles inside the drum which gradually fills up and begins to float and rise. The gas is taken through a wheel cock on the top of the drum and led to kitchen by pipes and burned through suitable burners. The spent slurry overflows from the top of the well and collects in a pit from where it is periodically removed and added to the compost pit.

The site for installation of the gas plant should be near the kitchen, in open space and away from any wall or tree so as to be under sunshine as much as possible. This will ensure better fermentation and better gas production.

An average-sized gobar gas plant costs less than Rs. 1,000. Four or five animals can provide enough dug to run a small plant.

CONSTRUCTION

A well, 2 metres in diameter, is dug to a depth of 4 metres. A sloping channel of 15 cm diameter is dug to a horizontal distance of 60 cm from the well and carried to a depth of 65 cm above the bottom of the well. The bottom is them brick floored and plastered with cement.

A well one-brick thick is now raised from the bottom, keeping an internal diameter of 1.35 metre of the well. The feeding pipe is then fixed in position in the channel and buried, with one end projecting 10 cm inside the well and the other about 25 cm above ground level. Brick lining of the well is continued to a depth of 1 metre from the top.

Three brick cornices projecting 15 cm inside the well are constructed for supporting the gas holder. Alternatively 3 stone slabs or angles from pieces each 40 im long, can be fixed projecting 15 cm inside the well The brick wall is then continued and finally raised 130 om above ground level A channel 10 cm wide is taken from the top for carrying the

(Contd. on opposite page

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overflowing used slurry to the compost pit.

A small brick lined pit, 30 cm square and 30 cm deep, just outside the well serves as a water catch to remove the condensed moisture from the gas pipe. By opening the tap periodically, once a week, the condensed water is let out and the pipeline for gas kept clear.

The gas outlet pipe with the wheel cock is then connected with the pipe line taken to the kitchen where suitable gas tap is fixed to take off gas for burning. The drum is then carefully introduced into the well so as to rest on the three projecting supports. Three 240 cm long black iron pipes 4·2 cm in diameter, with pulleys on the top are fixed at equidistant points outside the well, emerging 180 cm above ground level.

Three iron buckets are tied to lengths of twisted wire rope of iron chain with the other end tied to each of the handles of the gas drum. The wires are then passed over the pulleys so that the buckets keep hanging 45 cm from the ground level. The pipeline is fixed to one of the supporting pipes, with a bend at the upper end to which is attached one end of a 240 cm long hose pipe and the other end is connected to the nipple in the drum.

OPERATION

The gas plant is now installed and ready for operation. Dung is first made into a slurry with an equal proportion of water and introduced in the fermentation well through the funnel until it is completely full. This may take a week or more and require about 1,000 kg. fresh dung to fill. The wheel cock of the gas holder should be kept open during this period to allow the air to escape. When the fermentation well is full, the wheel cock is closed and the gas pipeline and the bend on the gas holder are connected by means of the rubber hose.

Production of gas normally starts within a week, the gas accumulating inside the holder causing it to float and rise. The first gas after installation may not burn due to a large proportion of carbon dioxide in it. In such cases the rubber hose may be detached and the wheel cock opened to release the gas. The drum will settle down and again rise with fresh gas which may be similarly tested. When the gas is required for use, wheel cock may be opened on the drum.

After the gas has first formed, production is maintained by daily feeding about 50 kg. fresh dung made into a slurry with an equal proportion of water. This produces about 3 cubic metres of gas daily, sufficient for the cooking requirements of an average sized family.

Larger sized gas plants can be constructed on the same principle by increasing the dimensions of the fermentation well up to 2.55 metres diameter and 4.5 metres depth with a gas holder of 2.4 metres diameter and 1.2 meres height, to yield about 9 cubic metres of gas daily. These bigger plants need more dung.

SIMPLE DESIGN

The gas collecting in the drum contains water vapour which gradually condenses in the rubber hose and the pipeline leading the gas to the kitchen. The pipelines should, therefore, be laid with a small slope from the pit so that all condensed water may collect here. For proper maintenance remove this water periodically by disconnecting the hose pipe and opening the water tap in the pit.

In summer the slurry on the top of the fermentation well is apt to become so thick that the drum does not easily sink when released for using the gas. The flame obtained is good to begin with but later becomes low. To remedy this, a few buckets of water should be poured directly in the fermentation well and it should be stirred all round with a bamboo pole until the slurry is sufficiently thin. The drum should be shaken and the flame tested.

The gas drum should be taken out and given coating of a protective paint at least once a year.

The digested slurry overflowing from the top of the well daily when fresh dung is fed, is led by means of a channel directly to a compost pit filled with leaves, straw, etc.. where it promotes the decomposition of these materials and yields a large quantity of manure.

If space for a compost pit near the gas plant is not available the liquid slurry may be collected in a smaller pit from where it may be cleared periodically and either applied to the land directly or put in a compost pit. Liquid slurry can also be dehydrated quickly by absorbing it in leaf powder, paddy, husk, saw dust and such other waste manerals and further dried in the sun and stored for use when required.

FLUCTUATING YIELD OF GAS

In the North, the yield of gas obtained in winter is reduced to about one-third due to the effect of low temperature on the activities of the micro-organisms. This difficulty can be overcome by incorporation of about 10 litres of cattle urine with 50 kg dung daily.

Arrangements can be made for cellecting the urine fraction in cattlesheds or by absorbing it in suitable litters, which can then be immersed in water and the extract incorporated in the well. The water for preparing dung slurry may be kept exposed to the sun for the day and used in the evening for mixing with dung and introducing this in the well.

About 1 kg. powdered leaves or wheat straw mixed with 50 kg. dung will give increased yield of gas by providing simpler energy material for the fermenting micro-organisms. The gas plant may be covered with wood or polythene structure to maintain higher temperature inside.

The gas is excellent for cooking purposes. since the blue and smokeless flame provides a neat and efficient fuel. Suitable gas burners of different sizes are available in the market for this purpose. It can be used for lighting purposes also. Suitable gas lamps are available in the market.

The usual petrol, kerosene and diesel oil engines of any horse power can be adapted to run on gober gas and the power generated utilised for pumping irrigation water, grinding flour, generating electricity, etc. Adapted diesel oil engines are available in the market. For this purpose large capacity gasplants can be constructed.

(Courtesy: Kurukshetra)

Only The Last One Really Dies

By DINAH NELKEN

The Professor is standig by my bed—this time without the white-coated guard of doctors and assistants, and as he makes himself at home on the edge of my bed, I can feel his watching me under sunren eyelids, can hear how he murmurs to himself:

"Where is the seat of the trouble?" And impatiently, "Where is the source? It's got to be somewhere"

"Here!" I wave my hand, with difficulty, towards my breast. "Here. In me. I could'nt go on any more." And softly, but clearly because I suddenly know it: "Weeks ago, I already said that I couldn't go any farther, I couldn't make this mountain."

"What mountain?"

"Life now...the new life...here in Germany. Even before...it didn't have any meaning. I only always acted as if it had a meaning that lived."

"Everyone lives as if it had a meaning. Mostly life leaves people no time to look for a meaning I don't know much about you, my dear Frau Lafontaine, but from what I've heard (I know your name and your books), your life has had meaning. It was full life."

"But my...what was, then my life?" I whisper, and suddenly see before me three beings who are either known or related; a child, pale, timid, in his violet blue eyes the reflection of vague dreams; a girl, full of fear and shame that she might know sin, without having ever sinned; a woman, who blindly hastens forwards, so far removed from herself. Sweetness, bitterness, pain, the yearning for these overcomes me. I say, "I have never...there was never time for myself. I had to live so much that I've run through life. And the way it was in Rome...and I was here in Munich—I couldn't run anymore."

I close my eyes before his glance. I can't stand it any longer—I'm too weak to defend myself, and my small possession of secrets, which people should leave alone for our dignity's sake. And the professor goes, only to come back every day. And sometimes. I see him in front of me, as if with a raised butterfly net, chasing after the lively and lost fluttering soul of his charge, in order to put it in the green botanical drum of my childhood outings, to guard it from the injustice of life. He's a friend who can also help, who should help me. But he refuses.

"You must help yourself. I can only help you if you work with me. If you speak, if you tell me something yourself, about yourself, or about forgotten, lost things, bypassed things, events, feelings' motives, yes, motives. Perhaps even why you are lying here".

"I know why I am lying here. Because I have polyneuritis. That's already established itself."

"Yes, but why has what's established itself, established itself? Or put better, why has your situation established itself so, you with the powers of resistance which you have, and which help in so far as we help them."

"You don't believe that I am intentionally sick!"

"No, but that one can be too tired, too played out to defend oneself, or also that one gives in a little, gives up...and it would help you if you were to talk about everything on your heart, perhaps alsa your art. I'm not competent in this field, artisn't my department, but a confession, a literary confession..."

I wave him off with my bird's claws—the muscles are atrophied oh, my beautiful hands—and claim to know this trick, the fairy tale of redemption through confession and avowal, however I don't wish to confess or avow anything. Also don't what any problems with the forgotten sins, lied about and concealed truth, and absolutely not about all the hindred heroes for whom no heroism was great, no suffering deep no death dead enough, early enough. deserved enough.

"I don't want to help myself any more,' I say furiously, 'I didn't get anything else out of my writing except money, and out of my life except that which one usually calls living'.

"Still, I think, however, that it would be an example, your life...,

"It was not a heroic life, it was fear.',

"All life is fear. Fear of life, fear of death,' he said, paused,

(Contd. on page 12)

Tit-Bits On Men And Matters

By T. NEELAKANTAN
(General Knowledge Agency)

SUFFERINGS OF OTHERS, MOVE EVEN STONY - HEARTS.

Most men and women get moved at the sufferings of others. Even those who are hard-hearted, are moved at the sufferings of others at some time or other. King Asoka, in his younger days had a fierce temparament. It was said that when his father was on his death-bed, he killed all the claimants to the throne and became the king. He was therefore called Canda Asoka. (Canda—fierce.) But when he saw the sufferings of the wounded at the Battle of Kalinga, he had a mental metamorphosis. The sights of the dead and the cries of the wounded, moved him so deeply that he took a vow not to wage a war again. Even the ambitious Napolean had a change of mind, when he was amidst the bodies of the dead and the shrieks of the wounded on the battle field.

When the people of a country are afflicted by natural calamities peoples of other countries, hundreds and thousands of miles away, strive their best to rush supplies of food clothing, medicines, etc., to the suffering people. When India was facing foodshortage some years ago, thousands of boys and girls studying in Dutch schools, fasted for two days, to save food-stuffs and send them to the hungry people. When there was shortage of food in Kerala, tribal boys of a school in NEFA of the Himalayan region, missed their meals on some occasions, saved rice and sent the rice thus saved to the Keralites. The people of India helped the people of other nations, when they were in distress. People of Tamil Nadu helped the people of other States, when they were in need of help. Unmindful of racial, regional, religious, political, communal and caste considerations, people are prompted to help each other, during times of danger and difficulties. This is human nature. We should be alert to see that this nature ever increases but never decreases.

MINISTERS AND PORTFOLIOS

Generally, portfolios are assigned to Ministers according to their knowledge and abilities. When Lord Goschen was appointed as the First Lord of the Admiralty, the "London Times" felt that the Lord lacked adequate knowledge on the navy and the oceans, and so wrote:- "Lord Goschen has no notion of the motion of the ocean" Those who read this, had a good laugh.

JULIUS CAESAR : HIS PLACE IN LIFE

Some of the months of the year, have been named after some of the great leaders of the world The month known as July was named after that great Roman, Julius Caesar. He was so conscious of his abilities that he wanted to be a man of importance, where ever he was. That was why, Julius Caesar once said:- 'I would rather be the first man in a village, than be the second man in Rome."

NETAJI BOSE AND TAMIL NADU RASAM

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was a great leader with broad and noble out-looks. He appreciated good things, whereever he found them. He liked South Indian food, especially the Rasam of Tamil Nadu. He liked Rasam so much that he once said that he would like to make it the National Soup of India. He greatly admired the patriotic songs of Poet Subramania Bharathi, even though they were in Tamil. He appreciated the fervor that they contained.

In 1965, there was a cyclone at Dhanushkodi and the people there suffered a great deal. Mr. T Neelakantan is seen presenting clothes to Mr. P. Kakkan, Minister, Government of Tamil Nadu, for distribution among the victims of cyclone.

Snails: Friends or Foes

Snails can be friends or foes depending upon which variety we are talking about.

Some snails have commercial and biomedical uses—their outer shells and flesh can be put to good use. There are some other snails which are disease carriers.

A marine biology centre in South India is presently engaged in the task of identifying those snails which can be put to economic use and those which are disease carriers.

To achieve these research objectives, the Centre for Advanced Study in Marine Biology at Porto Novo in Tamil Nadu, has taken as a partner the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor U.S.A. and both organisations are receiving financial aid from the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. Dr. R. Natarajan, Director of the Porto Novo centre and Prof. John B. Burch of the University of Michigan are the cooperating biologists.

According to Dr. Natarajan, the study began with a look into the life histories of molluscs. The general term molluscs refers to soft-bodied creatures which have outer shells. Oysters, snails, clams and cockles belong to the mollusc group.

The Porto Novo centre, Dr. Natarajan observes, decided in 1968 to study the biocycle of molluscs, to learn among other things, where they live, how they live and how long they live. With information gained in these studies, the centre's scientists are able to identify some of the edible varieties of snails.

The study, Dr. Natarajan notes, has shown that the shells of clams, snails and oysters are rich in calcium carbonate. The flesh of these creatures, he adds, has abundant protein and is low in fat 'Even now,' he points out, "the shell is used as an ingredient for making lime, but the meat is wasted. If a suitable technology were evolved for combining these two—the shell and flesh—and reducing them to a feed acceptable to poultry, we could get a good poultry feed. Such a feed might be a good alternative to fish meal, which also provides both calcium and protein."

Dr. Natarajan and his colleagues are also looking for disease carrying snails in India. Already Western marine biologists have identified a fresh water snail which spreads a disease called schistosomiasis. The disease originates from worms called blood flukes. The fresh water snails act as intermediary hosts for blood flukes during the larval stage of the fluke. After the larvae have grown they leave the snails and enter the body of mammals including man, through the skin. Once in the blood stream of the victim, the larvae deposit themselves in the liver and intestine and lay eggs.

The eggs hatch when they come into contact with fresh water and the new larvae are evacuated from the body during excretion. The excreated larvae swim about in the water till they find the appropriate snail host and the cycle is repeated.

Schistosomiasis is widely prevelant in tropical and temperate regions in Asia, Africa and the West Indies. People who work or bathe in water contaminated with snails carrying blood flukes contract the disease easily. A person infected with schistosomiasis suffers from anaemia and is in for a slow torturous death. A World Health Organisation report says that 180,000 to 200,000,000 people in the world are suffering from this disease.

Cases of schistosomiasiasis among human beings have so far not been reported in India. But it is feared that this country too will be faced with the problem unless precautionary steps are taken to protect our inland waters from the blood fluke menace.

Protective measures can be evolved only if we can learn all about the living conditions of snails hosting blood flukes. "If we know the living conditions of these snails." Dr. Natarajan says, "we can collect valuable knowledge on the predators and parasites living on the snails. Then we will be in a position to breed the parasites under controlled conditions and develop appropirate techniques for destroying such infective snails.

Dr. Natarajan, who is a specialist on molluscs, worked on a similar research project in the U.S. in 1963 while on a National Science Foundation assignment. During his involvement in this work, he had occasion to study the living conditions of certain disease-carrying snails. This experience, he says, has been valuable for his current research endeavour at Porto Novo.

So far Dr. Natarajan and his colleagues have collected a vast variety of snail in this country. 'It is possible to study only one group at a time because there are so many in a country like India, he says.

But the Porto Novo marine biologists have made an interesting finding during this study. Dr. Natarajan says that they have found a snail variety which has common characteristics with certain snails on the East African coast and the western coast of Australia.

Though this finding does not conclusively prove the theory of continental drift, Dr. Natarajan states that it opens up new avenues for research in this direction.

All from this humble snail. "And just imagine," observes the Porto Novo centre's Director, "this slow creature holds the secrets of the past and the prosperity of the future."

Comments By Vishnu

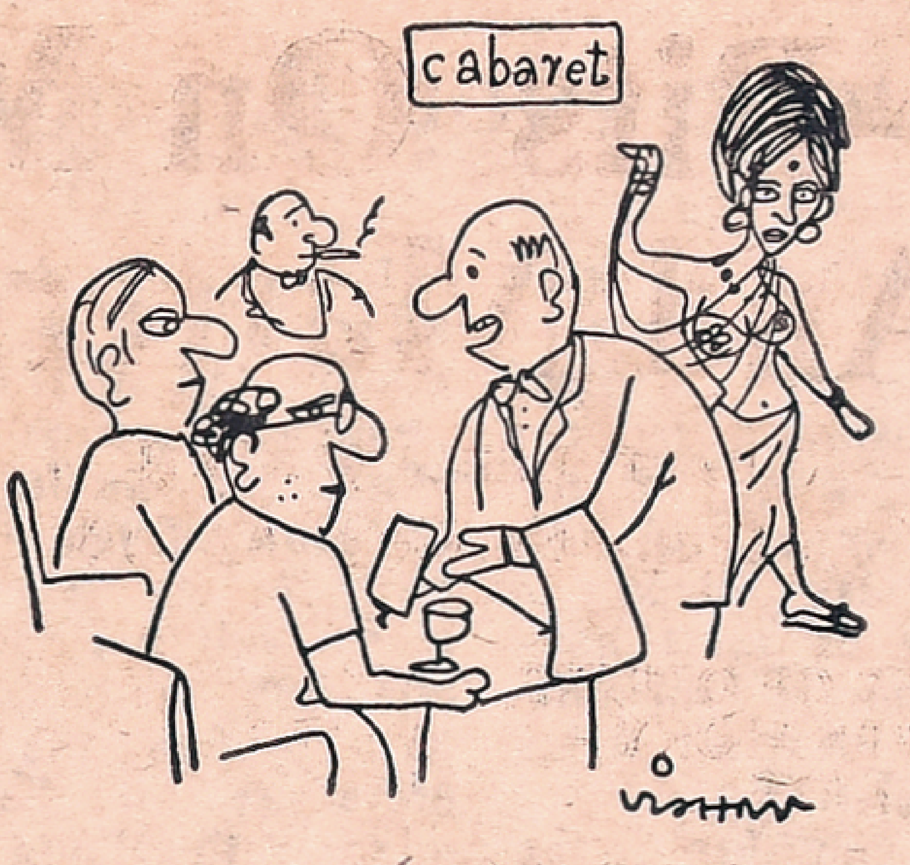
IN' LATION

Thi: is a matter of great concern to all of us. It was a problem in England at the end of the war. With typical British sense of humour, this is the type of publicity material that was being published to bring home to the pu lic the manner in which they could cooperate to halt inflation. The rhyme is based on a famous nursery tale.

WHO'LL KILL INFLATION?

Report to the Nation N. 13. (Her Majesty's Government)

"I says John Bull,
"I speak for the Nation...
We'll work with a will
And we'll thus kill inflation."
Who'll Strike The First Blow?
"I" says the Director,
"I'll keep prices low
And dividends d wn...
I ll strike the first blow."
Who'll See It Die?
"I," sa s the housewife,
For if I don't buy
Things I don't really need,
Then I ll soon see it die"
Who'll Ring The Bell?
"I," says the worker
"I ll mak more to sell,
And not ask for a rise
Till I have rung the bell"
Who ll Be Chief Mourner?
"I," says the Spiv, if I cant make a 'corner'
In goods that are short,
Then I'll be chief mourner."
Who'll Dig Its Grave?
"We," say t e people
"We ll work and we'll save.
By getting together
We'll all dig its grave.



"You pay more to see less...that's inflation..."
(Courtesy: Democratic World, 1973)

A Doggy Tale For Children

Children, do not be naughty. If you must be don't be naughty on the streets. Even if you are mind that your parents don't address you as a dog. Let them all you a pig or a goat or an ass but m nd they don't call you a dog. Listen to what happened to little Somu

Somu s parents had hell of a job to get him released from the cu tody of the civic authorities and he may well have f und his way into the lethal chamber. You know how difficult it is to persuade the civic offi ials. Well this is what happened.

Somu was up to some mischief on the street and he threw a stone which broke a window pane in his house. His mother was furious "You silly dog" she shouted at him. It happened that a man wearing khaki pants and a shirt was there at that time. His vision was very poor although he wore thick spectacles. He was a member of the dog van team. The van was parked just round the corner. As soon as he heard the word "dog" he caught Somu and tied him with a rope and took him away w th the other dogs. Fortunately his parents rescued him in time.

Warn your parents to be careful about th ir language. Better still don't play mischief on the streets.

• • •

Ranu's Caricatures

Should you happen to visit the children's ward of General Hospital where the little ones with deformed, injured or diseas d limbs lie on traction cots you'll find smiling upon the n the funny pictures (Donald Duck style) painted by Ranu (S K Ramanujam). This desire to cheer and bring happiness into the lives especially of small children is the theme of this artist's work.

'Ranu' displayed a number of his colourful caricatures under the auspices of the Sov et House of Culture and the exhibition was inaugurated by Vice Consul S. V. Paramanov T e arrangement was good, and the pi tures were neatly ex cuted and were completely devoid of bitterness or malice, sophistication or satire that one might expect when one thinks of a "cartoon". The pictures were meant to cheer and not to make people think.

'Ranu' after a basic school education, had training in Arts and Crafts under Roy Choudhary and Panikkar. He had drawn pictures for a number of publications (mostly meant for children) and his special interests lie in the field of animated film cartoons. He beli ves that once Television comes it will offer good scope for his talents. Already he has done caricature work for a few films and also for film titles.

"Ranu" with one of his darwings that now adorns the children's ward of General Hospital to cheer up ailing children. The picture in the backgrou d shows S vi t Vice-Consul S. V. Paramanov inaugurating an exhibition of his lively and colourful pictures at the Soviet House of Culture. Also seen in the photograph is Mrs. Varalakshmi who plays a triple role as wife, critic and inspirer to the artist.

Artificial Insemination With Husband's Sperm

For couples who have been investigated in detail and stil have not conceived, the procedure of artificial insemination with the husband's own sperm sometimes works. There are two types of artificial ins mination. The first is with the husband's own sperm (A.I.H.) and the other is with healthy sperms from a donor. (A.I D.) A.I.D. is fraught with a lot of moral and legal complications and will not be discussed any more here. Yet A.I. H. is not a repugnant procedure and sometimes gives successful results. Naturally the pre-requisite is that the husband should be able to make healthy sperms and to furnish the doctor (Gynaecologist) with a fresh specimen that could be inseminated into the wife at the right time in her sexual cycle. This aid proves helpful in cases where the sperms cannot be placed normally due to certain mechanical defects in the husband or the wife Sometimes due to certain mech nicai faults the sperms are unable to enter the womb.

A I.H is not an objectionable process and in carefully selected coup es, this aid may well help conception. Th s has been known for a long time although when the famous gynaecologist James Marion Sims of America suggested the idea it roused a lot of controversy at that time.

Courtesy: *Pregnancy Advisory Service* (Please See Free India dated March 24, 1974).

From page 3

Law Alone Not Enough...

Lok Sabha some time last week when a Member stated that a Harijan youth was stripped naked and paraded by the police through some of the streets of Bombay. If this incident did take place in Bombay, all of us must hang our heads in shame and solemnly ask ourselves: "Are we living in a civilised society?"

A news item published in the Bombay papers shows that, at the unveiling ceremony of Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar's statue in Bombay, on the 15th instant, Babasaheb's son declared that they had lost hope of receiving active help or assistance from the caste Hindus in fighting their problems and they would soon have to follow Dr Babasaheb's advice and proclaim their policy to do or die.

Fortunately, this incident led to a happy sequel the next day. Press reports indicate that all political parties including the Congress, Jana Sangh, Shiv Sena and others, called a general meeting at the same place to honour Dr Ambedkar; at this meeting, several speeches were made by representative speakers praising Dr Ambedkar's services to his community and the country and all those present took a vow to establish harmony between all the communities on the basis of absolute social equality and to help the cause of national integration in a democratic way and secularism, which Dr Ambedkar vigorously espoused during all his life. This meeting thus illustrates how positive and secular social propaganda can and should be carried out on a common platform of social justice by all political parties and by intellectuals who may not be connected with any individual party.

I would, therefore, appeal to all sections of the Indian community and particularly to the enlightened section amongst the Hindu community to take up the cause of fighting untouchability in all seriousness. Law alone will not be enough in removing untouchability. We have to fight the superstitions prevailing in the traditional minds of the Hindu community. It is a process of education which may be slow and tardy; but it must be undertaken with a crusading zeal: walls of superstition do not fall unless a determined effort is made to pull them down. We must sympathise with and appreciate the spirit of frustration, anger and bitterness shown by the young Harijan intellectuals and we must give them a fraternal helping hand to fight the cause which is just and which is more ours than theirs. The removal of untouchability is a fundamental right guaranteed to them and, in the enforcement of this fundamental right, the whole community must join in a spirit of dedication. Political freedom has no meaning for the Harijans and all talk about creating a new social order naturally sounds hollow, insincere and hypocritical to them. Between our professsion and our practice there is a distressing gap; and this gap must be immediately filled by sustained efforts to realise the dream which Gandhiji entertained to bring about social justice which the Constitution has promised. That is what Pantji meant in the speech which he delivered at the Lucknow University on the occasion of laying the foundation stone of the Institute of Social and Human Relations in 1949.

Since we have met here to honour the memory of Govind Ballabh Pant, we ought to take a vow that the cause of removal of untouchability, which was so near to his heart, will no longer suffer from lethargy, indifference or callousness, and will be supported by us, so that, in the near future, this blot on the Hindu social life will be permanently removed. The situation, to which I have referred in regard to the failure of Indian democracy to keep its promise to remove untouchability and establish social equality, is no doubt distressing and tragic; but we must not lose heart and must do our duty by our country by determining to make an earnest and unceasing effort to meet the challenge of untouchability and social inequality and put an end to this disgraceful blot on our democratic way of life. In this endeavour, there can be no difference as between political parties or as between intellectuals of one school or another. All of us must become crusaders in bringing about a social revolution in a democratic way and see that this ugly dream of untouchability yields place to the dawn of social equality. For the arrival of this dawn, our brothers and sisters have been waiting for ages and their patience is coming to an end.

MAJOR PROBLEM

Let us realise that our entire value system, on which the Constitution is founded when it promised justice—political, social and economic—and when it guaranteed the establishment of a new social order in a democratic way, is facing a grave challenge today. In order to meet this challenge, all of us, who believe in democracy, socialism and secularism, must join together and see to it that without any further delay, the removal of untouchability becomes a reality and he creation of a new social order to which the Constitution has committed us does not continue to be a mere dream. In this process laws and their effective implementation by governmental agencies must, of course, play a major role; but education at all stages, which is positive and secular, will play a more decisive role in removing obscurantism from traditional minds and introducing an intellectual and emotional climate in which our community will whole-heartedly come to terms with modernism. Let us remember that an atrophied public conscience and the entire value system on which the Indian democracy is founded can never go together. The major problem, therefore, is to awaken the public conscience and bring home to all members of the community that the continuance of untouchability is a matter of deep shame and disgrace for the entire community.

I suggest that, in moments of depression and frustration, we should turn to Tagore, because his prophetic vision and his inspiring words help as tonic to all agonised hearts. I would, therefore, like to conclude my speech with a 'geet' from Tagore's Geetanjali, in which Gurudev describes in matchless words the India of tomorrow towards which all of us are marching as fellow-pilgrims Says Tagore:

Where the mind is without fear
and the head is held high
Where knowledge is free;
Where the world has not been
broken up into fragments by
narrow domestic walls;
Where words come out from
the depth of truth
Where tireless striving stretches
its arms towards perfection;
Where the clear stream of
reason has not lost its way
into the dreary desert sand
of habit;
Where the mind is led forward
by thee into everwidening
thought and action;
Into that heaven of freedom,
my Father,
Let my country awake.

Concluded

Do You Know

Water Pumping Windmills

- Installation of wind, mills for pumping water in certain parts of the country after a suitable trial has been recommended by the National Committee on Science and Technology.
- The National Aeronautical Laboratory, Bangalore, has developed small horsepower wind mills. Fabrication of such wind mills by indigenour manufacturers is possible.
- The approximate cost of installation of each wind mill including storage tank, piping, installation, etc. is estimated to be Rs. 16.000.
- The capacity of the wind mill will depend on a number of factors like 'lift' height, pump diameter, wind speed, etc.

Diplomat's Sideline

Customs officers at Beirut's airport recently discovered 28 litres of Indian hemp extract a powerful narcotic, in the luggage of a US-bound passenger (at black market prices, incidentally, the lot was worth more than $280 000). The man was detained According to the authorities, he gave his name as Joseph Khalil Younes and said he was Haitian Ambassador to Jordan, claiming diplomatic immunity and demanding immediate release. The Lebanese police nevertheless put him in prison. A few days later the Haitian Ministry of Foreign Affairs informed the Lebanese government that Younes was not an ambassador but only honorary consul in Amman.

* * *

Justified Precaution

People in Tokyo witnessed a rather unusual funeral at the beginning of April. Outside the Homman Temple the more than a kilometre-long procession was met by reinforced police details, and armoured cars. The guardians of the law were afraid that the mourners might start a fight. For the deceased, 65 year-old Seida, was the boss of a big crime syndicate and more than 5.000 of his colleagues from gangs all over the country had come to pay him their last respects.

* * *

Crime Statistics

According to Federal Bureau of Investigation statistics, crime incidence in the United States has increased by 57 per cent since 1967. The increase is even bigger in the case of major crimes–murder, rape and armed robberies. It is 67 per cent. One of the reasons for this growth, Representative Michael Harrington told Congress, was the practically uncontrolled sales of firearms. From 1964 to 1973, he said, there were 95 000 murders, 800 000 robberies, and more than 700,000 people suffered bullet wound.

* * *

Their Friends

On the eve of Paraguayan dictator Alfredo Stroessner's visit to South Africa the Johannesburg "Sunday Times", quoting official American sources, wrote that Paraguay's ruling elements were associated with an international drug ring which had its headquarters in Asuncion. The expose infuriated the South African authorities who had hoped that the Strossner visit would make less obvious the growing isolation of their racist regime. Foreign Minister Hilgrad Muller called the article "shocking".

Muscovite's Diary

Ivan Ivanov

SOVIET-INDIAN COOPERATION IN AGRICULTURE

Glancing through the pages of the widely-circulated Soviet Weekly "MOSCOW NEWS" my attention was drawn to an article on Soviet-Indian Cooperation in agriculture. The article says cooperation between Soviet and Indian agricultural specialists is one of the elements shaping Soviet-Indian friendship.

Today there is extensive cooperation being carried on successfully among the agricultural scientists of both the Soviet Union and India. They are jointly working on a number of theoritical prob'ems including that of developing high-yield strains of wheat.

Scientists in both countries have been extensively exchanging samples and ideas, achievements and methods of research. Indian scientists, for example, in conjunction with Soviet selectionists, have evolved varieties of the so-called short-stemmed cereals. The Indian wheat Kalyan Sona, a pioneer of the new varieties, is being successfully grown and provides stable yields in the experimental fields of the Omsk region of the Soviet Union

Joint researches are being carried on in genetics of barley, legumes, fodder and vegetables.

India has been using extensively the achievements of Soviet seed growers in the development of sunflower varieties that yield a high percent of oil. The first sprouts of such sunflower crops appeared on Indian fields several years ago. Today Indian farms growing such varieties obtain some 1·5 tons of sunflower per hectare, and even more. This crop is gaining popularity not only in South India but also in West Bengal, Maharashtra and other parts of India.

Training of Indian personnel forms an important aspect of Soviet-indian cooperation. Today the Timiryazev Agricultural Academy, the Patrice Lumumba Peoples' Friendship University and other Soviet higher schools are offering facilities for hundreds of Young Indians for their training.

* * *

CHINA'S OBSTRUCTIONIST POLICY

The popular political weekly of the Soviet Union "New Times" in its latest issue has exposed China's obstructionist policy towards the Asian Security. The weekly says on all fundamental issues, including safeguarding security in Asia on collective principles, the Chinese leadership retained its former positions which had nothing in common with the interests of peace and socialism.

Examining China's policy in Asia, "New Times" has emphasised that China seeks to distort and misrepresent the meaning of the Soviet initiative on the building up of Collective Security in Asia.

"Official Peking seriously evades the issue of the very essence of the idea advanced. Peking pointedly ignores the principles on which Collective Security should rest, the fact that the road to it lies through transformation of the relations between Asian States on the basis of peaceful coexistence and good neighbourly cooperation," the weekly has pointed out.

The weekly has also recalled China's provocative actions against neighbouring Asian countries such as provoking border conflicts with neighbouring states, first and foremost, with India, insigation of unrest in Burma and Nepal; inspiration of the bloody tragedy in Indonesia; implanting and material and military support to ultra pro-Maoist groups and movements on the Philippines, Thailand and Malaysia; resistance to the birth of the independent Republic of Bangladesh and later to broad international recognition of that Young State.

"Fanning anti-Sovietism has become the main line in Peking's policy and propagandat for the Chinese leaders underst, and that world's first socialis-state is the main obstacle to their hegemonistic designs," the weekly says.

The idea of Collective Security in Asia, the weekly adds, "did not emerge on a vacant plot It fully accords with the principles of Bandung and 'Panch Shila,' the provisions of international treaties concluded by many Asian countries. Some other initiatives of Asian countries are also channelled in the movement for Collective Security in Asia such as the neutralisation of South-East Asia, the conversion of the Indian Ocean into a 'Peace Zone.' In fact, the efforts aimed at safeguarding collective security are already now becoming an effective factor in the political life of Asia itself, no matter whether Peking desires this or not,"

* * *

WORKERS' TRAINING CENTRE...

In the tree-lined Shabolovka Street, not far from the Radio Moscow Tower, there is a building, very well-known to many workers at the Krasny Proletary Machine Tool Plant. It was there that they handled a file or a spanner for the first time, felt the pleasant coolness of a lathe, and realized their own power over metal. There they also saw the parts for sophisticated machine tools which they had made to themselves. They learned how become metal-workers in that to building, which houses Moscow's Vocational School No. 6.

During the last 30 years hundreds of highly skilled fitters, turners and milling-machine operators got training.

Everything in the school facilitates good training The confortable equipment, the latest instruments, study aids, the most modern machine tools and other devices help the 15-16-year-olds to master their chosen trade.

19 subjects are included in the curriculum. Russian language and literature stand here side by side with electrical engineering, algebra, geometry, history, geography and special production processes. The students also learn English, or German, social science, astronomy, chemistry and physics.

The school has an exhibition of machine tools made by the trainees in the school's workshops. They include old, pre-war, low capacity machine tools and the latest programme-controlled machines produced by the Krasny proletary.

Today the school's graduates could be found in India. Egypt, France, the FRG and many other countries, where they go to adjust the machine tools made in the USSR at the Krasny Proletary. They also help foreign workers master the operation of these sophisticated machines.

From page 2

tion or being about a more egalitarian distribution of incomes.

A few guidelines for the income policy can now be suggested. The incomes policy in a poor country like India will have to be concerned with the raising of subsistence incomes to a level thought to be more consistent with the currently acceptable concepts of a minimum wage. Secondly, the income policy will have to be so designed as to improve the level of real wages of the industrial labour. Thus the income policy will have to embody the concept of equity in the distribution of income. Today the actual distribution of the net valued by output is not optimal from the view point of welfare maximisation. The purpose of a meaningful income policy in India will be to ensure a just share to those whose productivity has out-stripped the rate of increase in real wages.

Equitable distribution of income may not necessarily be efficient from the standpoint of economic development. But as Barbara Wootton observed, "it would indeed be an extraordinary stroke of luck if our chosen ideals proved to be hundred per cent economically viable." So the accent on equity in the income policy may not be hundred per cent efficient.

Nevertheless, accent on equity will create conditions conducive to economic development. With a rise in the incomes of those who are at the bottom of the income ladder, there will be a stimulus to improve efficiency and put in extra effort. The incentive of rising real wages and incomes will be efficacious in planning further increases in the rate of growth of income in India.

To borrow a phrase from Professor Hicks. India is not on 'Labour Standard' as the character of inflation in India is different from that prevailing in other economically developed countries. There is little of wagepush or cost-push inflation in India. Hence, the income policy cannot be used as an instrument of controlling inflation. The Government and other wage-fixing authorities have evolved "a politically viable policy which has ensured some restraint" on wages of the industrial labour. The real wages of the industrial workers have remained nearly constant and therefore there is no need to control a rise in the wage rate.

Moreover, we have examined that the income policy has been of little efficacy in controlling inflation in other countries. It will be more so in India because of a vast sector of unincorporated enterprises. In view of these considerations, it must be unequivocally stated that the instrument of the income policy should not be used for the purpose of checking inflation in India.

What is required in India is a rational economic policy which keeps the economy on an even keel without stagnation and without inflation. In this context the appropriate policy recommendation is to increase the marketable surplus of essential consumer goods and to improve the system of distribution of these goods at fair prices. The Ricardian emphasis on surplus of foodgrains and the institutional innovation of efficient public distribution system seem to be more opposite and appropriate to the Indian conditions

Thus the implications for future income policy would be :

1. To ensure socially acceptable minimum wage.

2. To evolve a wage structure with rising real wages.

3. To increase surpluses of essential consumer goods ; and

4. To plan efficient distribution of essential consumer goods.

From page 7

grinned amiably and finished—as if he had succeeded simply in setting aside one of the basic evils of all being or this particular being-'and overcoming it. Yes, all people live in fear, fear of life and death, and it works out somehow in spite of this".

"Good that's an apology. But I don't want to apologize because life is so and was so that you just made it".

"It was war," the doctor reminds me.

"It was always war, the great war that began in fourteen and then continued with inflation and hunger, slaughter and bombs, until today. We were always in the middle. my God I',

"You went away? You had to?" asks the doctor carefully.

"I wanted...we wanted, no, had to. And we did what we had to...Everyone does what he must because the situation is such, because he's afraid or in danger, or simply because he's dumb or smart, greedy or satisfied, stubborn or lively."

"One can do more than that for which one is suitable or capable. One can go farther, beyond one's own borders—"

"Where to? I raise my head. "farther, you say, always farther along the way which we have taken and which we must follow to the end, sentenced to...sentenced to death' Professor, to non-existence to nevermore.." I can feel the urge to cry rise in my throat, and that disgusting wetness in the eyes.

The professor blinks as well, as if he was trying to look into the darkness into which his patients escape with their secrets, fugitives from the inexorable light of their day into the twilight of by-paths, where one can escape from oneself, hide behind gravestones, lose oneself in places whose emptiness one can so little cross over. I grin because I see him a prisoner, even him.

"Or would you deny, Professor, the fact that nothing remains of us, nothing more than a little dust, dust to dust, earth to earth."

"The memory," he says, and then a sentence-this sentence: "Only the last one really dies."

My heart hammers. I feel deathly weak. Tears run over my cheeks. He comforts me. although he notices that I can pretty well tell that he is carefully holding the heart and lung machine by his feet in case the nerve paralysis progresses and extends, which the unknown enemy hasn't done yet. And my fear is confirmed when he comforts me with time, the universal healer, and promises that in six weeks I'll take my first walks. He shakes his head politely when I ask him if it will be to the cemetery. He laughs, we laugh together. I manage to raise my hand and wave to him thankfully as he goes, because it appears to me that he has put away his butterfly net and left the field to me. I suppose because of lack of time or simply weariness with chasing after the black butterfly of truth which always flutters away into fairy tale land.

—*G D R Reports.*

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SO STRICT

Two men were discussing the morals of their respective parish priests.

"Our clergyman," said one, "is so strict that he won't even perform a marriage ceremony."

"Goodness," replied the other "what has that got to do with his morals?"

"He says his conscience will not allow him to participate in any game of chance!"

Dharmopanayanam

Under the auspices of Dharma Seva Sangam 57, Akbar Sahib Street, Triplicane, Madras-5, it is proposed to celebrate the 23rd Year Dharmopanayanam for 25 Brahmin boys on 7-7-1974. In addition, it is proposed to conduct a Dharma Vivaham on the same date. The generous public are requested to contribute their mite for the above causes and help to bring the function to a grand success.

"Nan Avanillai" - A Bold Venture

(By M. A. SRINIVASAN)

I once wrote about Director K. Balachander that if he does not do something daring, it is not Balachander. I can now supplement that statement with the query: If Balachander does not do something daring, who else will do it? That is the impression one gets on seeing his latest picture "Nan Avanillai" which is a bold departure from the beaten track. Gemini Ganesh, for the first time, blossoming as a Producer, is also the hero in his picture.

The original story was provided by a popular Marathi drama, written by Aatre and staged for months on end in Maharashtra Both Balachander and Gemini Ganesh saw the drama, both were highly impressed by it and both decided to make a novel film out of it. And they have done it.

The whole story revolves round a court scene, in which the accused (Gemini Ganesh) is charged with not one or two, but several offences of misdemeanour. He stands in the dock putting on a face, which suggests that there cannot be a more innocent person than he in the this wide but wicked world. His several adventures in the role of a Don Juon let loose, are shown in flash-back and again and again we rightly come back to the court hall. How easily he makes young pretty things get crazy about him, how dextrously he induces persons to part with huge chunks of money, and how he dances his way day after day in wealth and comfort at the expenses of others, whom he has over-reached have to be seen to be enjoyed.

Gemini has been till now popularly known as the "Romantic king" (Kathal Mannan), but now he can claim the titles of "The Linguist Hero" and "The Perfect Criminal." Because, in every episode, he changes his mother tongue to the baffl ement and confusion of his victims and demonstrates that he can commit any wrong with non-chalance and impunity. But the long arm of law ultimately closes round him and he reaps what he sowed in spite of all his gallant but vain efforts to establish that he is not guilty.

Gemini Ganesh in the role of the several-faced multitongued villain discloses great histrionic talents. Though a villain to the core, he succeeds in evoking sympathatic reactions in us, even as he carves a soft corner in the heart of the Judge's daughter. And therein lie the deftness of the Director and the cleverness of the actor. Poornam Viswanathan, as the Judge does his part with dignity, while Jaya Bharathi, Jayasudha, P. R. Varalakshmi are among the wronged coy maidens. Others in the cast include, Kathadi Ramamurthi, Manakkal Mani, Kamalahasan, Lakshmi, Sundaribai and M. N. Rajam. To the songs composed by Kannadasan, Bhaskaran and Mitra, M. S Viswanathan has provided pleasing music.

The dialogues by Balachander are crisp, telling and appropriate, to the occasion. The picture which is of high standard constitutes another praiseworthy achievement to his credit.

LITTLE LAUGHS

"New frock, eh! You're extravagant with your margarine coupons."

"I'm following your oft-repeat ed advice, darling, and taking a leaf out of your book."

• • •

"Can you think of anything worse than sleeping on a concrete floor?"

Yes, keeping awake on it.

• • •

"Let us have a gay, light-heart ed spirit."

That's all right if we've an ancestral home to put him in.

• • •

"For my protein I used to rely entirely on nuts, but they are hard to get now."

So you are nearly off your nut?

• • •

"There is one thing an old dog dislikes more than any other."

Yes, an old cat.

White lies aren't so good nowadays. The really artistic ones are in technicolour.

• • •

"Breathe deeply. Germs are killed by deep breathing."

"But how are you going to teach the germs to do it?"

• • •

Waiter: "How would you like your rice, madam?"

Spinster (wistfully): "Thrown at me!"

• • •

"It's silly," said the philosopher, "to say women are as young as they look. They can't all be under thirty."

• • •

"I was held up by two men last night."

"Where?"

"All the way home!"

• • •

I love the ground she walks on and that property she owns on the other side of town, too.

Tales Of The Crimean Woods

Mikhail Chilikov, a former pilot who is now working as a flight supervisor at the air port in the city of Simferopol (the Crimea), is a man with a rich creative imagination. He can find magic beauty in the trees of the southern woods. The stem, the roots and branches of a dry tree come back to life as soon as Chilikov's hands touch them. The models used in the works of this self made sculptor have been borrowed from folklore and literary works based on fairy-tales. His sculptures exhibited on the Fairy tale Lawn (an original museum in Yelta, the largest health resort of the Crimea) attract everyone's attention. Childran are delighted with the fantastic sculptures, while adults, acknowledging the sculptor's talent, speak with respect of his uncommon industriousness and capacity for work.

Left top: Mowgli and Python Kaa (after the fairy-tale Mowgli by R. Kipling)
Left middle: The "Guard of Honour" made up of fairy-tale character at the gate to thes "Valley of Fairy-Tales"
Left Bottom. Demons of the wood
Right top: The sculpture which depicts the fight between the heroes of the fairy tales
Right Bottom: Three heroes from old Russian fairy-tales

M. G. R. and Latha enjoying a joke in "Netru-Inru-Naalai"

Glamourous 'C.I.D.' Sakunthala as she adpears in "Enga Pattan Sothu"

FILM NEWS IN PICTURES

Jaichithra and Jaishankar teasing each other in a Jovial mood in "Akkarai Pachchi."

Sivaji Ganesan as Buddha in "Anbei Thedi."

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